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1970

Facts and Speculations on ESP and the SIGINT Threat

LT COL [] was a man of much experience in the SIGINT community. When I started my research into the field of Parapsychology he was one of the first people I questioned about Agency interest in the subject.

He told me that, as far as he knew, he himself was one of the first to advocate looking into the subject. His interest was aroused because of a personal experience which had occurred many years ago. COL [] and an Agency colleague were on a TDY trip at the time and were sharing a room for the night. It had been a busy day and they were still engaged in an animated discussion at a late hour. COL [] was giving his roommate a seven digit numerical sequence as an example, when the roommate suddenly exclaimed that it was a precise number he was just then thinking about, a phone number he had to call. The roommate being a man of mathematical background was impressed with the odds that such a coincidence it should be due to chance alone.*

COL [] was still thinking about the incident when he returned to the Agency. He felt strongly enough about the implications of the question to pay a visit to Mr. William Friedman. When he related the incident to Mr. Friedman, he closed with a recommendation that the Agency look into research on Extrasensory Perception (ESP) and its relevance to the SIGINT community.

*Of course sublingual clues could not be ruled out in such a case.

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Not knowing what Mr. Friedman's reaction to his suggestion had been, COL [] was pleasantly surprised when he chanced upon Mr. Friedman in the halls and was invited into his offices.

Mr. Friedman happily displayed to COL [] a list he had composed of recommend research subjects for the Agency. There among them was ESP.

Since these early days, research has slowly progressed into the possible relationships between Parapsychology and the Intelligence community. Experiments have been designed to test the effects of the Telepathic* and Clairvoyant* phenomena on the cryptosecurity of the U.S. codes and ciphers; Intelligence community information is periodically scanned for developments in Free World or SINO/SOVIET Bloc research which might constitute an increased threat to our Communications Security. The search for Agency Psychic talent is actively, if informally pursued whenever possible. One of the difficulties involved in testing for ESP within a laboratory environment is that the laboratory can rarely duplicate the extreme, and often tragic stimulus found in spontaneous cases. Lacking such strong motivation, ESP rarely provides spectacularly positive results in the laboratory.

One apparent exception to this frustrating parapsychological testing situation occurs when the so called "Poltergeist" phenomena is under study. This appears to be the case because the phenomena is apparently a psychopathological condition, somewhat like ulcers and seems to be caused by

Poltergeist (PK): The ability of the mind to influence matter usually by motion.

*Telepathy: Mind to mind communication.

*Clairvoyance: Awareness of a physical object beyond normal sensory range.

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temporary or long term emotional stress. When the person has stored up enough to cause objects to move around a room the stored up energy seems to take some time to dissipate; this storage condition occasionally permits the scientist to get the subject into a laboratory or into a reasonably controlled situation, in which he can subject the strange effects and their perpetrator to careful study.

Having finished with this underhanded introduction to the subject, I would like to consider two excellent questions:

1. Is there strong evidence supporting the existence of PK phenomena and its relationship to stressful situations, where frustration within a person causes the build up of energy that expresses itself in PK demonstrations.

2. What effect could such a phenomena have on the SIGINT community.

- A. There is significant evidence supporting the existence of the phenomena and its connection with frustration. The famous psychiatrist Hans Bender investigated two celebrated cases in Germany: "The "Rosenheim" Case of 1967 and the "Bremen Boy" case of June 1965. The Rosenheim case of 1967 was also investigated by two physicists Drs. F. Nanger and G. Zuha, who also supported the reality of some of the unusual phenomena.* It all began in late 1967 in a lawyers office in Rosenhiem, Bavaria. Neon lights blinked off and became unscrewed, Electric light bulbs exploded and usually high telephone bills were attributed to the number 0119 (the dial a time number).

Henry W. Pience, Science Looks at ESP, New American Library INC, New York 1970, pp. 86 and 87.

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The town sent the assistant director of the electric company and his electricians to investigate. Using a voltage recorder they detected unexplained deflections (or up to 50 AMPS) associated with the strange phenomena. To rule out the possibility that the town's power supply was causing the unusual problem, a separate generator was used to provide the building with power. Still the phenomena persisted. When physicists F. Kanger and G. Zuha observed the same phenomena, they also noted that the house voltage remained the same. This led them to conclude that the phenomena was not electrical but that an "unknown energy" must have "mechanically" acted on the pointer of the recorder.*

A team of Parapsychological investigators headed by psychiatrist Dr. Hans Bender was called into the case. Dr. Bender's suspected that this was a case of "Poltergeist" (PK) phenomena and began to look for the usual cause---a young person with unresolved conflicts. He found such a person in Annemarie Schaberl. She hated her work and impatiently awaited the end of each working day. She was most distressed in the late afternoon. The time when hundreds of calls were registered for "0119"---The number for "Time".* The phone was closely observed during these periods but there was no dialing motion to be seen. Instead it appeared that the "girl's unconscious PK somehow seemed to have tampered directly with the switching elements inside the instrument.*

When the lawyer Sigmund Adam was told about the suspected PK occurrence, he joked with Annemarie that "The next thing you know there'll be pictures twirling on the walls.*

*Alan Vaughn Pollergeist investigations in Germany, Psychic, The Bolen Co., San Francisco, California, April 1970, pp. 12 & 13.

4
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Early the next Monday morning, the suggestion seemed to take effect, as heavy oil paintings were observed to twirl on the walls. "Bender's team also witnessed this and was able to film on video tape the movements of one painting as it rotated through an arc of .120 degrees."*

Annemarie went to Dr. Bender's laboratory at Freiburg to be tested for ESP and PK. It is noteworthy that the girl only scored above chance "when her emotions rose to a high pitch during the course of Bender's psychiatric interviews."*

The "Bremen Case" involved a 15 year old boy, Heiner Schultz who, it was claimed by witnesses, could cause objects to move without touching them. At first the strange phenomena concerned flying dishes in a china shop. When witnesses realized that the phenomena only occurred when Heiner was in the shop, Dr. Bender was called in to investigate. To the amazement of Dr. Bender and his team of three men, the phenomena continued while the boy was under their observation. Later when the boy was apprenticed to electricians the phenomena took a bizarre twist, loosening sturdy cable hooks inserted into a concrete wall. When Dr. Bender set up a laboratory test it also showed positive results. The scientific team inserted their own hooks into a concrete wall and after assuring themselves that they were secure, placed the boy at a distance of one meter from the wall and closely observed. After a few minutes they discovered the hooks were loose but no one had seen them becoming so. When the Bremen boy and the Rosenheim girl were psychologically examined their personality structures

*IBID Psychic pp 13

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were found to be unstable. Both had little tolerance for frustration. In both the frustration caused a rapid build-up of tensions for which neither had any normal outlet. A more conformist reaction to the same stressful environment might be to develop an ulcer or high blood pressure.

Soviet scientists are well aware of the PK phenomena and have been conducting tests in a Leningrad Laboratory. The test subject is N. S. Kulagina, a woman who is reported to be able to move small objects at will. The laboratory belongs to Dr. G. A. Sergieiev (Dr. of technical sciences, cyberneticist, telecommunications expert and neurophysicist). Sergieiev is the inventor of the wireless EEG or Force Field Detector. The phenomena have been verified by several scientists including the world famous theoretical physicist, professor J. B. Terletskii, who suggests that some unknown kind of energy is responsible for the phenomena. The physician who studied Mrs. Kulagina during one experiment stated that the pattern of her reactions during the experiment "reminds one of a stress alarm reaction", which tends to support Dr. Bender's findings.

Now let us consider the second question: How could this effect the SIGINT Community?

a. The evidence suggests that the PK effect in times of stress and tragedy may be far more common than we suspect: The clock stopping at the time of death or accident, the picture falling apparently without cause when a son is shot down over North Vietnam and light bulbs blowing out with unusual frequency (only during times of high tension). Many of

*Dr. Zdenek Rejda, ESP in Eastern Europe and Russia, March 1970, p. 6. Dr. Rejda is the Chief Czech Parapsychologist and personally tested Kulagina under stringent laboratory conditions.

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these minor incidents are quickly forgotten and usually reported to no one.

As with most large organizations, many agency employees already display some of the Psychosomatic symptoms of stress: ulcers, high blood pressure, tics, etc. Many psychological experts tell us that unrelieved stress does not have to display itself in a particular symptom. Many different types will do just fine. Most are interchangeable, with a given individual often displaying a variety of different symptoms during his lifetime, even blending some. It is interesting to note the prevalence among executives of the socially acceptable stress ("Success") symptoms of ulcer, high blood pressure and heart ailments.

The twirling pictures in the Rosenheim case indicate how symptoms may be altered merely by suggestion. With the increasing popularity and acceptability of ESP and PK, it is anticipated that PK symptoms will increase. If one accepts that such things are possible, it is certainly much more appealing to use your excess energy to destroy the source of your frustration: The computer, the telephone, the teletypewriter, than it is to destroy yourself. Just consider for a moment the temptation: One cannot be held responsible for such effects, such "getting back at the boss" would be very hard to differentiate from outages with other causes; the adventurous aspect is fascinating all by itself.

(It would be appropriate at this point to ask our readers: Is there a lot of pressure and tension in your office? Do you also have a much higher outage rate or down time than comparable offices? Have you really isolated the cause of your malfunctions? Do these outages measurably

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degrade the efficiency of your operation? Perhaps it would be worthwhile to carefully compare the rate of accidents and outages of undetermined cause in our offices during times of stress and during more normal periods. Do the light bulbs in your house blow out more frequently when someone is under stress. You might keep a little graph of stress peaks. The correspondence might surprise you.)

B. As PK becomes more widely publicized and the methods of causing it more accurately determined, is it beyond the realm of possibility that those masters of conditioning, the Soviets, will attempt to:

1. Use the PK capability to disrupt communications equipment with a direct attack by a trained person(s).

2. Plan their world moves in such a manner that all major diplomatic or military thrusts are preceded by a prolonged period filled with stress producing activities designed not only to frustrate and confuse our people, but also to produce PK effects in sufficient quantity to measurably degrade the operations of our critical command and control machinery: Telecommunications, crypto and computers.



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